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13 October 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Intelligence Community Staff

FROM:

  
Office of Program and Budget Coordination

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SUBJECT: Space Launch Policy Working Group

1. The Space Launch Policy Working Group (SLPWG) is one of three working groups established by the Senior Interagency Group for Space to develop policy on space issues. The SLPWG is co-chaired by DoD and NASA and has representatives from ACDA, State, Commerce, Central Intelligence and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Its first meeting was held on 6 October at NASA.

2. The SLPWG has agreed to a two-phase breakdown of launch policy issues. Phase I addresses issues which affect the FY 1984 budget deliberations; Phase II will deal with longer term policy questions. The primary Phase I issue is the determination of how many STS orbiters are needed to provide an assured and sustained national space launch capability. Phase II issues include development of: Policy that maintains US space transportation leadership, policy that stimulates private sector investment in space transportation, and criteria that establishes when the STS is fully operational and in cost-effective operation.

3. The Working Group will emphasize the Phase I issue in order to have a coordinated briefing prepared to present to the SIG (Space) by mid-November. The approach to studying the need for a fifth orbiter is to analyze the availability of launch services as a function of traffic demand, orbiter turnaround time, vehicle attrition, and new orbiter construction cost and delivery schedule. In scoping the analysis this way the Working Group is not necessarily addressing the specific question of the need for a fifth orbiter but, will be looking at the need to continue the STS manufacturing capability.

4. Because Defense enjoys a priority for launch services the current fleet of four orbiters can easily satisfy their requirements. Care is being taken to assure that any justification for additional orbiters will not be linked to DoD requirements or result in additional launch costs to the DoD.

ALL PORTIONS OF THIS MEMORANDUM  
ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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5. I was assigned the task of researching threats to the STS. A threat is defined as any direct or indirect act which puts an orbiter out of service. With the help of my alternate member, [redacted] we should be able to compile relative documents and apply them to the exercise within the study schedule.

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6. The charts used by Mr. Charles Gunn, NASA, in his introductory comments are attached.

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Attachments: As stated

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# **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY WORKING GROUP**

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## **NATIONAL SPACE POLICY TENETS**

- ① **MAINTAIN U.S. SPACE TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP**
- ② **EXPAND U.S. PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT AND INVOLVEMENT IN CIVIL SPACE ACTIVITIES**
- ③ **UTILIZE STS AS NATION'S PRIMARY LAUNCH VEHICLE**
- ④ **MAKE STS FULLY OPERATIONAL AND COST EFFECTIVE**
- ⑤ **SUSTAIN EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLES UNTIL STS CAPABILITIES ARE SUFFICIENT TO MATCH NEEDS**

## **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY WORKING GROUP APPROACH**

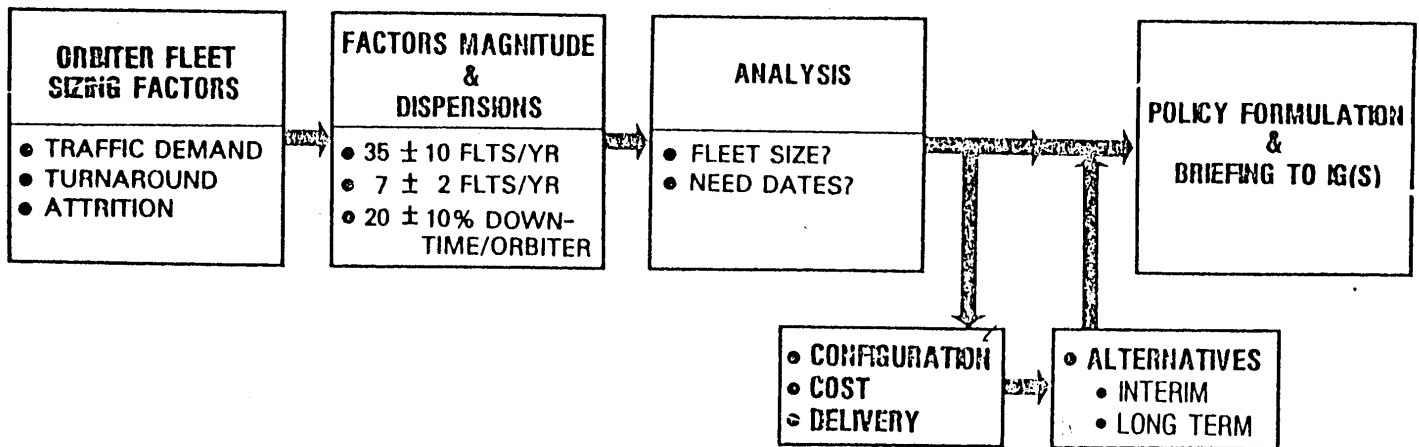
- ① **ESTABLISH TERMS OF REFERENCE**
  - ② **REVIEW AVAILABLE INFORMATION**
  - ③ **DEFINE TASKS AND TEAMS**
  - ④ **PRIORITIZE POLICY QUESTIONS--FY84 BUDGET IMPACT**
  - ⑤ **DEVELOP POLICY OPTIONS FOR EACH QUESTION**
  - ⑥ **DEVELOP PROS/CONS FOR EACH POLICY OPTION**
  - ⑦ **DEVELOP RECOMMENDED POLICY OPTIONS AND BEST ALTERNATIVES**
  - ⑧ **BRIEF INTERAGENCY GROUP (SPACE)**
- 
- ⑨ **INITIAL WORKING GROUP MEETING — OCT 6**

## **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY WORKING GROUP TASKS**

- ④ **PROPOSE POLICIES THAT MAINTAIN U.S. SPACE TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP**
  - WHAT MARKETS SHOULD BE ENTERED?
  - WHAT SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED?
  - WHAT CAPACITY SHOULD BE PUT IN PLACE?
  - WHAT SERVICES AND COST ADVANTAGES SHOULD BE OFFERED?
- ④ **PROPOSE POLICIES THAT STIMULATE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN SPACE TRANSPORTATION**
  - WHAT NATIONAL INTERESTS ARE SERVED?
  - WHAT ELEMENTS ARE SUITABLE FOR COMMERCIALIZATION?
  - WHAT ACTIONS WILL STIMULATE COMMERCIALIZATION?
- ④ **DEFINE CRITERIA FOR:**
  - FULLY OPERATIONAL STS
  - COST-EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS



## SPACE LAUNCH POLICY STUDY APPROACH



## **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **PHASE I — AFFECTS FY 84 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**

- HOW MANY STS ORBITERS ARE NEEDED TO PROVIDE AN ASSURED AND SUSTAINED NATIONAL SPACE LAUNCH CAPABILITY?

#### **PHASE II —**

- POLICIES THAT MAINTAIN U.S. SPACE TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP
- POLICIES THAT STIMULATE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN SPACE TRANSPORTATION
- CRITERIA THAT ESTABLISHES WHEN STS IS:
  - FULLY OPERATIONAL
  - COST-EFFECTIVE OPERATION

## **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY ASSIGNMENTS**

### **NASA/DOD**

- MISSION MODELS
- ORBITER LEAD TIMES AND COSTS
- ORBITER TURNAROUND
- OPERATIONS ADVANCED ATTRITION ESTIMATES
- MIXED FLEET COST ANALYSES
- CHARACTERIZE COMPETITION
- DERIVED BENEFITS FROM OUTSIDE USAGE (DIRECT & SECONDARY)

### **DOS/ACDA**

- DERIVED BENEFITS FROM FOREIGN USAGE

### **DOC**

- DERIVED BENEFITS FROM COMMERCIAL AND FOREIGN USAGE

### **JSC** *JCS*

- AIRCRAFT ADVANCED ATTRITION/DOWNTIME EXPERIENCE (MILITARY & COMMERCIAL)

### **DCI**

- STS/ELV THREAT AND ATTENDANT DOWNTIME PROJECTION

**SPACE LAUNCH POLICY**  
**PHASE I — MILESTONES**

- **ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT MEETING — OCTOBER 6**
- **PROGRESS AND STATUS MEETINGS**
  - **OCTOBER 15**
  - **OCTOBER 26**
- **DRAFT BRIEFING — NOVEMBER 2**
- **BRIEFING WITHIN AGENCIES — NOVEMBER 8—10**
- **BRIEFING TO INTERAGENCY GROUP (SPACE) — NOVEMBER 15—19**

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## **SPACE LAUNCH POLICY**

# **SPACE TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP**

- **ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY BASE**
- **DEMONSTRABLE/RELIABLE/SUSTAINABLE CAPABILITY**
- **SOUGHT PRODUCTS/SERVICES**
- **RESPONSIVE TO COMPETITIVE CHALLENGES**

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